

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

CRITERIA

I. NOMINATIONS

All nominations for the Massachusetts Firefighter of the Year Award must be submitted in writing on the form supplied and should be sent to **Firefighter of the Year, c/o Kerry Weihl, Department of Fire Services, P.O. Box 1025, Stow, MA 01775**. All paid, call, or volunteer firefighters may be nominated for recommendation as "Firefighter of the Year". Nominations must be initiated by the head of the local fire department and must be for performance between July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. The nomination must include a narrative signed by the fire chief detailing the acts. Any and all documentation, pictures, testimonials, or affidavits should accompany the nomination. Nomination forms will not be considered without the submission of a narrative from the fire chief.

The chief will be asked to attend the meeting of the Heroic Awards Selection Committee to provide a brief overview of the incident and answer any questions the committee might have. The Events Coordinator will contact the chief with the date and a specific time.

II. AWARD CRITERIA

Nominations may be made to recognize individuals and companies for performance in any of the following areas (**keeping in mind that firefighter safety should not have been unnecessarily compromised to affect the rescue, unless the potential benefit exceeded the actual/perceived risk**):

- a) Emergency Response – fire incidents including rescue of victims, incidents involving hazardous materials, vehicle extrication and rescue, rescue from heights or depth, confined space rescue, water or ice rescue.
- b) *Norman Knight Award for Excellence in Community Service* - Exemplary programs and/or actions including fire prevention, fire investigation, training, public fire education, or other innovative community service programs.

III. AWARD CATEGORIES *

- a) MEDAL OF HONOR
Awarded as the highest recognition.
- b) MEDAL OF VALOR
Awarded as the second highest recognition.
- c) NORMAN KNIGHT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE
Awarded for exemplary community service programs and/or actions.
- d) GOVERNOR'S PERSONALIZED CITATIONS

*May be awarded to either individuals or companies